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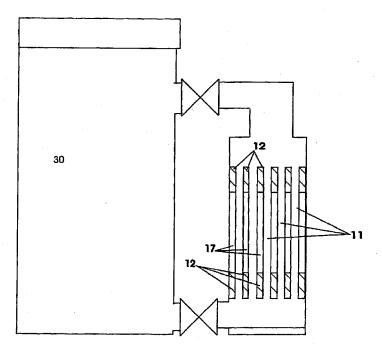
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(54) Title: SELF CLEANING FILTER



(57) Abstract: A self cleaning filter which works in dead end mode consists of a plurality of membrane module placed in a tank of waste water with an air diffuser to bubble air up over the surface of the membrane, the filtered water permeates through the membranes and is led away and the air keeps the membrane surface clear.





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#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B01D65/02 B01D B01D65/08 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 BO1D Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) WPI Data, PAJ, EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1,2,4,12 vol. 1996, no. 09, 30 September 1996 (1996-09-30) & JP 08 131784 A (NITTO DENKO CORP), 28 May 1996 (1996-05-28) abstract X EP 0 734 758 A (MITSUI PETROCHEMICAL 1,3,12 INDUSTRIES, LTD) 2 October 1996 (1996-10-02) claims: figures X PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1,2,7 vol. 1999, no. 11, 30 September 1999 (1999-09-30) & JP 11 156161 A (KANEGAFUCHI CHEM IND CO LTD), 15 June 1999 (1999-06-15) abstract Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled 'O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 19 January 2001 29/01/2001 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Cordero Alvarez, M Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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Inter: nal Application No PCT/GB 00/02295

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